

# JOB Seeker News

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Twice-monthly Summary  
Published by the *Labor Market &  
Economic Analysis Branch of the  
Washington State Employment  
Security Department*. Website:  
<http://www.wa.gov/esd/lmea>

## Highlights

### Get a Job - Win a Trip

The Northwest Washington  
Employment Expo 2000 will  
feature more than 50 top local  
and regional businesses  
representing a wide range of  
entry level and professional jobs.

As a special incentive,  
participants of the free event will  
have a chance to enter a  
drawing and win a deluxe travel  
package (destination to be  
determined). The event will be  
held in Bellingham on April 20,  
11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Best  
Western Lakeway Inn, 714  
Lakeway Drive.

Last year, the Expo drew more  
than 1,600 participants and a  
lucky job seeker won a Carnival  
Cruise to Ensenada, Mexico.  
The event is sponsored by the  
Northwest Workforce  
Partnership, which includes the  
WorkSource Center, Business

Pulse Magazine and several  
local employment and training  
offices in surrounding counties.  
For more information, contact  
Trudie Goodman at:  
tgoodman@esd.wa.gov or  
Sharry Wade,  
swde@esd.wa.gov. You can  
visit the Expo Internet site at  
[www.employmentexpo2000.com](http://www.employmentexpo2000.com)

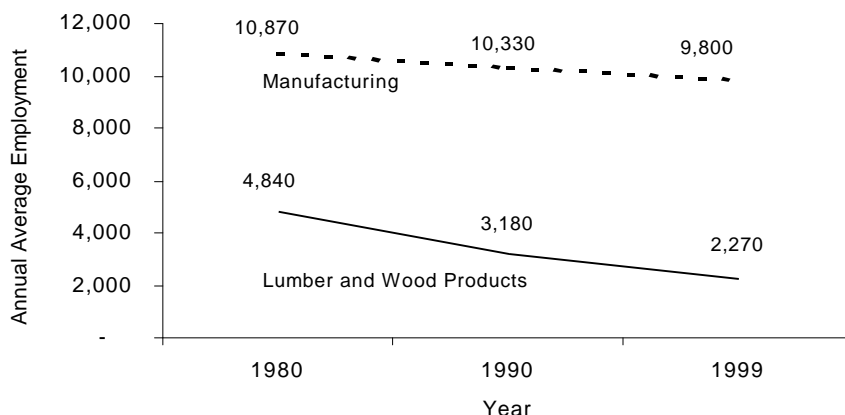
### New Longview Plant to Create 100's of Jobs

With Cowlitz County  
employment in manufacturing  
and especially, in lumber and  
wood products, trending  
downward over past years (see  
insert below for Cowlitz County  
manufacturing employment  
trends), the arrival of 250  
manufacturing jobs should give  
the local economy a boost.

A Japanese company, Tokyo  
Communication Equipment Co.

(Continued on back page)

**Cowlitz County Nonagricultural Employment For  
Selected Industries: 1980 - 1999**



Source: Employment Security Department

of Tokyo, plans to begin construction in May on a new high-tech plant in Longview's Mint Farm Industrial Park. The plant could eventually employ as many as 250 people, according to Cowlitz County Economic Development Council president, Clint Page. The plant will make synthetic quartz crystal bricks.

The company is a leading worldwide supplier of wire and wireless communications systems and quartz crystal components.

## Eastern Washington

**Wenatchee** Hiring is underway to fill 31 new jobs at Alcoa Wenatchee Works. The firm plans to restart two aluminum pot lines soon, the first in July. The jobs are entry-level tapper carbon changer laborer positions that pay about \$14 per hour, plus benefits.

**Spokane Vicinity** GTE Wholesale Markets will be hiring for 75 positions when it opens a second call center in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. The new center will process orders for high-

speed digital subscriber lines from Internet service providers.

**Warden** California-based Seminis Vegetable Seeds plans to more than double the size of its plant in the town of Warden and bring 23 additional jobs to the local area. Warden is located about 15 miles southeast of Moses Lake.

**Liberty Lake** Accra-Fab Inc., a 20-year-old precision sheet metal fabricator, plans to hire 15 people. The company, which is building a new facility in Liberty Lake Center, has seen a 25 percent growth in its employment over the past 13 months. Accra-Fab currently employs 325 people there.

## Western Washington

**Seattle** Vancouver B.C.-based Worldwide Fiber Inc., a fiber-optic telecommunications company, is establishing a Seattle office that will employ about 200 persons by the end of the year. The firm is in the process of changing its name to 360 Networks Inc. Seattle will be a central node in the international fiber network that

the company is building. The new positions will range from marketing to business development.

**Seattle** Microsoft Corp. and Anderson Consulting are creating a joint venture that could bring 400 to 500 jobs to the Seattle area within its first 24 months of operation. The venture, called Avanade, would promote and sell software and consulting services tied to Windows 2000 products.

**Clark County** Safeway plans to hire 150 people before the end of the year for its new grocery store, to be located at Salmon Creek Plaza, at the intersection of Highway 99 and NE 129th Street. Construction will begin this summer.

**Olympia** A new Olympia-based e-commerce company named GeoAgents.com hopes to grow to 75 people by the end of the year as it markets its software and services to help travel agents to operate on the Internet. The firm has recently moved to a larger office at 2600 Martin Way.

## Tips and Links

**"How to Start and Operate Your Own Home-based Business"** will be offered by Tacoma Community College on May 10 and June 14. The cost is \$99. Call (253) 396-9128 for more information.

**Airport Jobs - Job Fair** will be hosted by the Airport Jobs office at Sea-Tac International Airport. The fair will be held Friday, April 21 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the large auditorium at the Main Terminal on the Mezzanine Level. There are hundreds of full-time and part-time jobs from which to choose. For more information, phone La Casse at (206) 835-7503 or e-mail her at [jlacasse@esd.wa.gov](mailto:jlacasse@esd.wa.gov).

**The Peninsula College Job Fair 2K** will be held on Wednesday April 26, 2000. The event will run from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the college gymnasium. More than 50 local and regional employers will be in attendance. Several workshops will also be offered. Contact Leslie Hofer, Coordinator at (360) 417-6548 or e-mail: [leelieh@ncadmin.ctc.edu](mailto:leelieh@ncadmin.ctc.edu)

For questions or to offer material for this newsletter, contact Don Ayers at ESD – LMEA, PO Box 9046, Olympia, WA 98507-9046 or call the Labor Market Information Center at 1-800-215-1617, Fax (360) 438-4109.